

ey and come here and pay off the College debt. Do this and we will all acknowledge your claim to the power of working miracles. This will be turning your claims to practical use. You will not need to "rumage" from Exodus to James to establish your claim, and all controversy would cease, So mote it be.

Congress, O., Nov. 24.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

B. G. FREDERICK.

San Joaquine county, California, affords many advantages not found in any other part of the state, or the east, and since an irrigation ditch is about completed, it will make a wonderful change in this part of the state. Previously this country has been devoted exclusively to small grain raising. The winter rains supplying sufficient moisture for this purpose, and the long season favorable for harvesting, has made farming on an extensive scale the rule.

Many farmers putting out yearly thousands of acres of this land in wheat and barley. Their manner of harvesting these large tracts would form an interesting chapter for the readers of the EVANGELIST. (Provided Brother Gnagey's rules will allow it.) The past three years' experience among the farmers of this "San Joaquin Valley" has proven that small grain raising "don't pay" from the fact that after we cut, thrash, sack and deliver it to the ware houses we get eighty-six to ninety cents per 100 lbs. for choice milling wheat. But handling *so much* land is not practical under irrigation. The yield in this valley where sufficient water is properly applied is phenomenal.

It is estimated that one acre of alfalfa will fatten two oxen and ten pigs per year. Or if an orchard in full bearing, will yield \$50 to \$800, per acre per year from fruit raised. Farmers are decidedly in favor of an irrigated country, because it eliminates all risk in planting, raising and harvesting full crops. It leaves little ground for anxiety about material things. Farmers are now throwing a large per cent. of this land on the market at such reasonable prices that I feel like inviting those who may lean towards California to come and look at San Joaquin Valley. I am frank to state that every one with a capital of \$2000, and upwards could improve their condition by coming to this valley. Ten reasons why we call your attention this way.

1. We have a pleasant and healthy climate. The hottest weather is not so oppressive as in the states where rains are frequent. There are but few nights during

the summer but what a blanket is required to keep one comfortable. And the coldest in winter is about twenty-six degrees above zero. And it is very common to see ice one-eighth of an inch thick.

2. Our spiritual thermometer keeps up to a good warm temperature, with brethren S. J. Harrison and J. P. Wolfe giving spiritual food to the people of Ripon, East Union, Lathrop, and Vernalis, and Sunday-school at each point, and prayer meeting, making a desirable place to live. And our annual camp meeting brings forth its spiritual feast also.

3. By irrigation every variety of grain, vegetable, and fruit can be raised here to perfection.

4. An irrigation ditch from which 40,000 acres can be watered is just about ready to convert this most wonderful wheat and barley valley into orchards and alfalfa fields.

5. At Lathrop, the "hub of the state" we have as good transportation as there is in the State of San Francisco Bay, as trains run almost every hour of the day.

6. Stockton, the County Seat of San Joaquin county, a prosperous city of about 20,000 people, is only nine miles from Lathrop, and twenty miles from the neat, little village of Ripon, (the address of the writer.) In Stockton are many factories and jobbing houses, enabling us to buy what we cannot raise or manufacture at the lowest possible price.

7. On account of water transportation lumber and coal are about twenty per cent. cheaper than in the east.

8. The land is all under cultivation, and the highest standard of public schools sustained in the United States, are maintained here eight to ten months out of the year.

9. All public buildings, such as libraries, court house, school-houses, bridges, hospital and asylums, are much better than the most counties in the States.

10. Water for domestic use can be easily reached at a depth of eighteen feet, which is as clear as crystal, and the deeper you go the softer it gets. Taking into consideration the foregoing reasons, we consider the price of land very low, ranging from twenty dollars to sixty dollars per acre, according to location, quality and improvements. Water for irrigation costs eighty cents per year for a perpetual right. And an annual rental of \$1.50 per acre per year, for only what you actually use. Comfortable cottages in Lathrop of three to seven rooms, rent for three dollars to eight dollars per month. Should any reader of this desire further information, write me enclosing stamp for reply.

Ripon, Calif.

FORM VS. POWER.

H. P. BRINKWORTH.

As we look over the church to-day it is evident that the prevalence of formality is alarming. Well might it be said that true vital piety accompanied by the power of the Holy Spirit is to some extent decreasing. Whole churches are kept up by mere formality even down to the finances. Its additions are through chatechetical lessons and the mere learning a form of answers. The evidences of spiritual regeneration are not inquired after. The testimony of a living faith and belief in the forgiveness of sins, with a corresponding evidence of a new birth, a forsaking of worldly things, an aspiring after spiritual gifts—these are not sought after. The initiatory rite of baptism is lightly spoken of, and in some instances almost ignored, and why all this? Simply because form has taken the place of genuine power and God is therefore robbed, the church member deceived, and christianity is below par with the individual. He or she has not felt the sacred, elevating, and spiritual cleansing spoken of by the Apostles when he refers to the *living sacrifice* daily to be offered and the non-conformity to the world.

There are those in the churches of to-day, who, if the power of the Spirit were manifested as in days of yore would escape out of the back door, rather than be amongst those enlivened and christly saints whose joy would be full; whose spiritual tendencies would be too warm for cold-hearted professors and luke-warm Christians. Do you believe that such could happen you? Are you a cold professor, a nominal Christian, a figure head in the church and society? If so, would to God that the fire might burn out the dross and more would become hot in their professions and spiritual in their devotions.

Too much half-heartedness kills the growth of any religious body, and too much formalism is to-day a part and parcel of the religious make up of many whose names are enrolled as members of the church. What is the remedy for this evil? Surely, if there is a cause, there should be a cure, but as we have shown and all know that too much exists we shall leave the subject for some other writer to solve the perplexing question. How to destroy formalism and restore pure spiritual strength.

Louisville, O,

TRUE contentment depends not on what we have. A tub was large enough for Diognes, but a world was too small for Alexander.—Colton.